



Make Your Own Living Ornament

This project is essentially a mini terrarium. Be sure to use your imagination, experiment and have fun!

Materials

- Plastic ornament from craft store, 3" or 4" (bigger is easier to work with)
- Funnel
- Small pot (to hold ornament)
- Fine grain soil
- Water
- Plant (cuttings or seed – see suggested plants on back side of this sheet)
- Long tweezers

Instructions

1. Remove cap top of ornament, place on a small pot or cup (to support while you work)
2. Add 2 – 3 tbsp fine soil (use a funnel; it will help keep the sides of your ornament clean)
3. Using long tweezers, place a small cutting (or seeds) in the soil
4. Water carefully, just moistening the soil; there should be no standing water
5. Place in a bright area (no direct sunlight) until the cutting has rooted
6. Check every few days for water
7. When ready to display, put top back on the ornament and hang in a favorite spot



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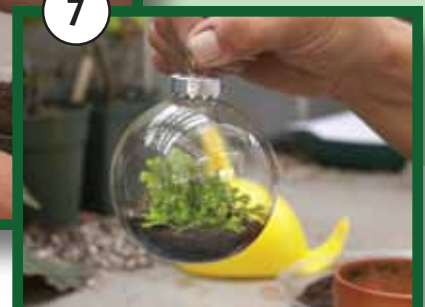
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Flip over this sheet for a list of suggested plants!

Season's Greenings

These living ornaments need a bright area, no direct sun and to be watered only when dry. If the inside of ornament collects condensation, remove the cap top to allow the extra moisture to evaporate.

When the plants in the ornament begin to fade you can open the ornament, add water, shake and drain it as much as possible. Use tweezers to pull out remnants of the plant and discard. If you cannot remove the plants, let the ornament dry completely and try to crumble the plants and soil to remove. Clean the ornament and start over.

Suggested Plants

Any plant that stays small could be a potential living ornament plant.

- African Violets
 - String of Pearls
 - Polka-dot plant
 - Iresine
 - Hemigraphis
 - Fittonia
 - Ferns
 - Succulents
 - Cactus (keep on dry side; it will last a long time)
 - Begonia
 - Coleus (roots fast and is very colorful but also grows fast; will be ready to display in a few weeks; will need to be redone in a few months)
 - Seeds (try grass seed; it grows fast, will not last long but looks great for a few weeks)
- Experiment with other seeds of low growing plants.

Cuttings are limited by size. The cutting has to fit through the small opening in the ornament. Most will be ready to display in 2 – 3 months, depending on growing conditions and plant types.

